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# STATISTICAL SUMMARY

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Statistical Reporting Service, U. S. D. A.

Washington, D. C.

SS-258

May 27, 1964

## According To The Crop Reporting Board, as of May 1 . . .

Winter Wheat production is now estimated at 1.0 billion bushels, about the same as the April 1 forecast, 12 percent above 1963, but 1 percent lower than the 1958-62 average.

Hay Stocks on farms totaled 20 million tons, 15 percent less than a year earlier and 11 percent below average.

Peach production in 9 southern States is estimated at 5.3 million bushels, about one-fourth as large as last year and one-third as large as average.

Orange production, (1963-64 season) is estimated at 97 million boxes, 8 percent below 1962-63 crop and 22 percent below average.

Grapefruit production, at 34 million boxes, is 3 percent less than last year and 20 percent below average.

Late Spring Potato crop is estimated at 19.2 million hundredweight, 20 percent below 1963 and 22 percent below average.

Milk production for April is estimated at 11.3 billion pounds, 1 percent more than last year and 2 percent above average.

Egg production, at 5.7 billion eggs in April, was about the same as last year and average.

dry area--the Old Dust Bowl Area--in southeastern Colorado, southwestern Kansas, extending south through western Oklahoma, western Texas, and eastern New Mexico. Precipitation also was light through Arizona, California, Oregon, and parts of Washington. High winds and tornadoes occurred in many areas but were especially frequent in the central and southern Plains.

## Early Spring Potato Prospects Down

The estimate of early spring potato production is down 6 percent from the April 1 forecast because of reduced yield prospects in the Hastings, Florida area. Considerable damage occurred there from storms the last of April. The 1964 early spring crop is now expected to be 20 percent below last year but 6 percent above the five-year average. Indicated production of late spring potatoes is about one-fifth below a year earlier and average. Growers in the early summer potato areas expect to harvest 6 percent fewer acres than in 1963 and 16 percent less than average.

## Prices of Farm Products

### Spring Vegetable Output Down 3 Percent

Production of spring vegetables is expected to be 3 percent less than last year but about the same as average. Expected increases over last year in production of spring onions, asparagus, cantaloups, and celery are more than offset by expected declines of 18 percent for watermelons, 17 percent for late spring sweetcorn, 12 percent for lettuce, and lesser declines for tomatoes, asparagus and cabbage. Prospective planted acreage of the 9 vegetable crops for commercial processing is 1 percent less than last year and 4 percent less than average.

### April Soil Moisture Above Normal

April storms brought near normal to above normal precipitation for most of the Nation. In early April a snow storm swept the northern Great Plains and moved eastward into New England but for the rest of April, precipitation came as rain, except in the Rocky Mountains. The Cornbelt and the South Central States, except for Oklahoma and Texas, were drenched frequently. The Cornbelt received moisture half again or more above normal with many areas receiving twice the normal precipitation. Many of the south central States and Georgia received at least twice the normal April total with several areas receiving even more. Heavy washing rains caused damage to some early planted crops in the area. In contrast, precipitation was light in an already

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices based on data for Apr. 1964
	Mar. 1964	Apr. 1964	
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.)..... ct.	30.68	31.67	40.91
Wheat (bu.).....dol.	1.85	1.94	2.53
Rice (100 lb.).....dol.	5.17	5.27	6.37
Corn (bu.).....dol.	1.11	1.14	1.56
Peanuts (lb.)..... ct.	11.4	11.2	14.2
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb.)..... ct.	58.7	58.7	77.9
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.).....dol.	4.12	<sup>1</sup> 3.93	5.40
Wool (lb.)..... Ct.	<sup>2</sup> 52.5	<sup>2</sup> 53.6	79.8
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.).....dol.	.902	.906	1.23
Cottonseed (ton).....dol.	46.30	--	63.10
Flaxseed (bu.).....dol.	2.85	2.81	3.83
Hay, baled (ton).....dol.	24.00	23.50	27.00
Oats (bu.).....dol.	.631	.632	.845
Potatoes (cwt.).....dol.	1.74	2.08	2.35
Rye (bu.).....dol.	1.07	1.04	1.38
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.).....dol.	1.75	1.74	2.45
Soybeans (bu.).....dol.	2.55	2.45	3.04
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.).....dol.	5.29	5.77	5.75
Oranges, on tree (box).....dol.	3.54	4.25	3.23
Apples, for fresh use (bu.).....dol.	2.46	2.93	3.10
Beef cattle (100 lb.).....dol.	18.60	18.10	24.70
Calves (100 lb.).....dol.	23.30	22.30	28.10
Hogs (100 lb.).....dol.	14.10	14.00	21.80
Lambs (100 lb.).....dol.	19.80	20.10	24.70
Chickens, all (lb.).....ct.	14.0	13.4	22.7
Eggs (dozen).....ct.	34.1	31.6	47.1

<sup>1</sup>Preliminary

<sup>2</sup>Does not include incentive payment

## Hay Stocks Below Last Year and Average

May 1 farm stocks of hay totaled 20 million tons, 15 percent below a year earlier and 11 percent below average. Stocks were below last year in all areas except the North Atlantic region. Supplies at the beginning of the feeding period were about normal and the same as a year earlier for the country, but disappearance has been high especially during the period prior to January 1. Disappearance January 1 to May 1 was a little above a year earlier and 2 percent above average.

## Pasture Conditions Mostly Good to Excellent

May 1 pasture condition averaged 83 percent of normal, 5 percentage points above last year, still 1 point below average but up 6 points from

## Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1963		1964		
	April	Year	Feb.	Mar.	April
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) <sup>1</sup>	63.4	63.9	64.1	64.5	65.4
Farm employment .....	6.4	6.5	4.8	5.3	6.1
Family .....	4.9	4.7	3.9	4.2	4.7
Hired .....	1.5	1.8	.9	1.1	1.4
Index numbers (1957-59 = 100)					
Industrial production <sup>2</sup> .....	122	124	128	128	129
Total personal income payments <sup>3</sup> ..	125	127	131	132	132
Weekly factory earnings <sup>4</sup> .....	114	118	119	120	121
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker <sup>4</sup> .....	116	118	120	120	121
Wholesale prices, all commodities <sup>4</sup> .....	100	100	100	100	100
Farm commodities .....	95	96	94	95	94
Food, processed .....	99	101	101	100	100
Consumer price index <sup>4</sup> .....	106	107	108	108	--
Food .....	104	105	106	106	--
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Prices received by farmers .....	242	241	240	240	236
Crops .....	244	238	242	243	244
Food grains .....	239	224	229	215	225
Feed grains and hay .....	161	164	164	166	168
Cotton .....	278	270	249	259	267
Tobacco .....	501	496	490	490	490
Oil bearing crops .....	254	258	263	260	252
Fruit .....	308	279	298	295	317
Commercial vegetables .....	243	238	278	299	241
Livestock and products .....	240	244	238	237	230
Meat animals .....	288	289	269	273	268
Dairy products .....	240	252	261	254	243
Poultry and eggs .....	144	145	147	144	136
Prices paid by farmers					
All commodities .....	283	283	283	283	283
Used in living .....	297	298	299	298	300
Used in production .....	273	273	271	272	272
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index).	312	312	313	313	314
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted .....	683	677	673	673	703
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index) .....	78	77	77	77	75

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of the Census. <sup>2</sup> Federal Reserve Board. <sup>3</sup> Department of Commerce. <sup>4</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics--any figures not available at press time omitted.

a month ago. In the North Atlantic States, pasture feed condition was about average for May 1 but considerably better than a year earlier. Pasture feed condition was rated good to excellent in the East North Central States although pastures were slow to develop after the dry conditions last fall and the cool weather during March. Condition in the West North Central States was much improved from April 1. The excellent pasture condition in the South Atlantic States contrasts with the very poor conditions of a year earlier. Conditions improved sharply during April in the South Central States except in Oklahoma where rain is needed. Generally, pasture feed condition in the Western States did not improve during April and was below May 1 last year because of the cool spring, and a lack of moisture in the Pacific Coast States and from Colorado southward on the eastern side of the region.

## Orange Crop Forecast Down

The orange crop is forecast at 96.5 million boxes, 8 percent below last year and 22 percent below average. The estimate is down from last month primarily because Florida's Valencias are turning out below early season indications. Two-thirds of the U.S. orange crop had been harvested by May 1, leaving 32 million boxes still to be picked, compared with 20 million boxes unharvested at the same date last year.

## Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan.-Mar. 1963	Jan.-Mar. 1964
Dairy Production			
Milk.....	Bil. lb.	1 41.6	<sup>1</sup> 42.3
Evaporated whole milk .....	Mil. lb.	405.8	436.8
Dry nonfat milk solids (for human food).....	Mil. lb.	533.9	564.8
Butter, creamery .....	Mil. lb.	385.0	386.6
Cheese, American .....	Mil. lb.	233.2	262.3
Ice cream .....	Mil. gal.	149.2	156.2
Poultry Production			
Eggs .....	Billions	<sup>1</sup> 21.3	<sup>1</sup> 22.0
Federally inspected slaughter <sup>2</sup>			
Chickens.....	Mil. lb.	1,105.2	1,205.6
Turkeys.....	Mil. lb.	56.6	60.3
Poultry for further processing...	Mil. lb.	139.2	148.1
Liquid egg.....	Mil. lb.	107.5	135.3
Dried egg (egg solids) .....	Mil. lb.	6.5	8.8
Frozen egg.....	Mil. lb.	69.2	85.2
Meat Production (dressed weight) <sup>3</sup>			
Beef.....	Mil. lb.	3,793	4,222
Veal.....	Mil. lb.	212	207
Pork.....	Mil. lb.	3,041	3,184
Lamb and mutton.....	Mil. lb.	195	185
Total red meat.....	Mil. lb.	7,241	7,798

<sup>1</sup> January-April

<sup>2</sup> Ready-to-cook

<sup>3</sup> Commercial; excludes farm slaughter

## Grapefruit Forecast Down, Lemons Up

The grapefruit forecast is 33.8 million boxes, down 3 percent from last year and 20 percent below average. In California's Desert Valleys and in Arizona grapefruit have sized better than expected earlier in the season. Nearly 88 percent of the U.S. crop had been picked by May 1, leaving only 4.1 million boxes for the remainder of the season compared with 3.5 million boxes unharvested a year earlier. The lemon crop is estimated at 17.6 million boxes, up 35 percent from last year and 5 percent above average.

## Peach Forecasts Continue Down

Peach production in the 9 southern States is forecast at 5,275,000 bushels. This is 72 percent below the large 1963 crop harvested in these 9 States and 68 percent below average. Severe freezing weather in late March, when most trees were in bloom, did extensive damage in the Carolinas, Georgia, and Alabama. Other States in this region were not materially affected by the March freeze. However, only Louisiana expects a crop as large as in 1963. There will be some production in all areas of those States where the freeze took a heavy toll of the crop. In South Carolina production of only 900,000 bushels is expected--about 12 percent of the 1963 crop of 7,800,000 bushels.

**TOBACCO, REVISED (1962 and 1963 Crops):** Combined production of all types of tobacco totaled about 2,337 million pounds in 1963. This is the highest poundage for any year of record, surpassing the old mark of 2,332 million produced in 1951. Production in 1962 was 2,315 million pounds and averaged 1,841 million during the 1957-61 period. Tobacco was harvested from 1,174,700 acres in 1963. An average yield of 1,989 pounds per acre was realized, marking the fourth year in a row that new all-time-high yields have been established. For 1962, prices averaged 58.9 cents per pound.

Flue-cured production in 1963 weighed 1,371 million pounds or nearly 3 percent less than the 1,408 million produced the previous year. Bright-leaf tobacco was primed from 694,500 acres, 5 percent fewer than in 1962.

At 755 million pounds, the largest burley crop of record was produced in 1963, surpassing by 80 million the 1962 crop of 675 million pounds, the previous high. A phenomenal yield of about 2,231 pounds per acre was

## Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-Food Products

Year and Month	Retail Cost <sup>1</sup>	Farm Value <sup>2</sup>	Farm-Retail Spread	Farmer's Share
1963 average.....	\$1,078	\$394	\$684	37%
1964 Jan. ....	1,079	398	681	37%
1964 Feb. ....	1,079	393	686	36%
1964 March .....	1,076	395	681	37%

<sup>1</sup>Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per family in 1952 by urban wage-earner and clerical-worker families calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

<sup>2</sup>Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

made in 1963, the highest ever for any class of tobacco, and the first time the burley belt has reached or exceeded the ton level.

The Southern Maryland crop is estimated at 29.3 million pounds, sharply less than the 40.6 million produced in 1962. Plant shortages and persistent droughts during the 1963 season curtailed both acreage and yield.

Fire-cured production in 1963 was 55.9 million pounds compared with 54.2 million the previous year.

Dark air-cured leaf, types 35-37, weighed 25.3 million pounds--the greatest poundage since 1956.

Cigar filler tobacco produced last year is estimated at 56.7 million pounds--16 percent less than produced in 1962 smallest since 1958.

Cigar binder production was 23.7 million pounds in 1963 compared with 24.9 million the previous year, lowest, since records began 45 years ago.

Production of cigar wrapper in 1963 amounted to 18.7 million pounds, or 3 percent less than the 19.3 million a year earlier.

## Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings, by States, March

State	Livestock and Products	Crops	Total
	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
Maine .....	11,123	10,920	22,043
New Hampshire .....	4,035	1,070	5,105
Vermont .....	10,027	1,694	11,721
Massachusetts .....	8,158	5,419	13,577
Rhode Island .....	1,085	604	1,689
Connecticut .....	7,968	4,407	12,375
New York .....	54,650	16,801	71,451
New Jersey .....	11,956	8,230	20,186
Pennsylvania .....	52,618	18,373	70,991
Ohio .....	53,686	26,162	79,848
Indiana .....	55,689	26,885	82,574
Illinois .....	85,346	89,512	174,858
Michigan .....	35,229	19,967	55,196
Wisconsin .....	91,396	8,594	99,990
Minnesota .....	88,504	27,877	116,381
Iowa .....	141,882	45,000	186,882
Missouri .....	50,776	17,723	68,499
North Dakota .....	13,581	21,987	35,568
South Dakota .....	34,584	8,249	42,833
Nebraska .....	62,506	21,555	84,061
Kansas .....	67,337	25,142	92,479
Delaware .....	7,504	1,738	9,242
Maryland .....	16,433	4,493	20,926
Virginia .....	19,456	6,223	25,679
West Virginia .....	4,919	1,488	6,407
North Carolina .....	27,958	10,771	38,729
South Carolina .....	9,159	4,213	13,372
Georgia .....	39,444	9,771	49,215
Florida .....	18,895	90,428	109,323
Kentucky .....	23,494	5,453	28,947
Tennessee .....	21,457	7,506	28,963
Alabama .....	29,029	5,263	34,292
Mississippi .....	23,289	8,541	31,830
Arkansas .....	21,735	5,614	27,349
Louisiana .....	13,594	5,733	19,327
Oklahoma .....	34,425	5,481	39,906
Texas .....	107,132	28,074	135,206
Montana .....	11,243	16,356	27,599
Idaho .....	17,292	14,731	32,023
Wyoming .....	8,358	1,123	9,481
Colorado .....	34,448	9,619	44,067
New Mexico .....	10,184	2,229	12,413
Arizona .....	18,366	13,270	31,636
Utah .....	10,495	1,631	12,126
Nevada .....	4,293	631	4,924
Washington .....	15,214	13,840	29,054
Oregon .....	15,347	7,742	23,089
California .....	106,248	97,602	203,850
United States .....	1,611,547	785,735	2,397,282
United States, Jan.-Mar. ....	4,764,165	3,421,895	8,186,060
Same period, year ago .....	4,733,920	3,422,743	8,156,663

<sup>1</sup>All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

## Corn Planting Awaits Drying Weather

Seeded preparation for row crops across the Corn Belt is progressing at about the same rate as small grain seeding. The eastern and northern sections were one to two weeks late. The central and southern areas were at or near normal for May 1, although behind last year's progress, as farmers await favorable drying and planting weather. Kansas and Missouri had 20 percent and 16 percent, respectively, of the 1964 corn crop planted by May 1 which is about the same as normal.

### Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States<sup>1</sup>

	March 1964	April 1964
<b>CASH RECEIPTS</b>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Total marketings and CCC loans <sup>2</sup> .....	2,397	2,300
Livestock and products.....	1,611	1,600
Meat animals.....	872	
Dairy products.....	426	
Poultry and eggs.....	268	
Other.....	46	
Crops.....	786	700
Food grains.....	77	
Feed crops.....	217	
Cotton (lint and seed).....	40	
Oil-bearing crops.....	88	
Tobacco.....	13	
Vegetables.....	150	
Fruits and tree nuts.....	85	
Other.....	116	
Government payments.....	196	
Grand total.....	2,593	
<b>VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:</b>	1947-49 = 100	
All commodities.....	114	111
Livestock and products.....	146	152
Crops.....	71	56

<sup>1</sup>For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. <sup>2</sup>Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month. Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

## Other Crops Prospects

**PEARS - CALIFORNIA:** As of May 1 Bartlett pear prospects in California were good. The crop which had good bloom and fruit set suffered some damage in north coastal counties and mountain districts. However, in the Sacramento Valley and other major producing areas, there was only minor damage. Fruit on the trees appears to be in good condition at the present time and production is expected to be well above the short 1963 crop. Prospects for "other pears" are also better than last year. "Pear decline" is becoming evident in some orchards but in general the outlook is for a normal crop. Although there was scattered hail and frost damage the set of pears was generally heavy.

**POTATOES:** The May 1 estimate of early spring potato production, at 4,112,000 hundredweight, is down 240,000 hundredweight from the April 1 forecast. At this level, 1964 production is 20 percent less than 1963 but 6 percent above the 1958-62 average.

Production of late spring potatoes in 1964 is forecast at 19,173,000 hundredweight, 20 percent less than 1963 and 22 percent less than average. Substantial reductions from 1963 are indicated for California, Arizona, Texas, South Carolina, and North Carolina. Baldwin County, Alabama is the only major late spring area in which production is expected to exceed 1963.

**MAPLE SIRUP:** Maple sirup producers made 1,548,000 gallons of sirup this spring, 39 percent more than last season and the largest crop since 1957.

For the second time in three years New York, with 510,000 gallons, held first place in maple sirup production while Vermont, usually the leading State, followed closely with 505,000 gallons. Last year the production in the two States was the same--368,000 gallons.

William T. Schanger, Editor